

Presentation prepared for:



Policy on Sound and Marine Mammals: An International Workshop

U.S. Marine Mammal Commission - Joint Nature Conservation Committee, U.K.

28-30 September 2004 - London, England

Do not cite or distribute without
author's permission



Policy on Sound and Marine Mammals: An International Workshop

**U.S. Marine Mammal Commission and
U.K Joint Nature Conservation Committee**

David Cottingham

28 September 2004

Advisory Committee on Acoustic Impacts on Marine Mammals

- Congress directed MMC to organize a series of international meetings to:
 - Survey acoustic threats to marine mammals
 - Develop means of reducing those threats

Advisory Committee on Acoustic Impacts on Marine Mammals

- MMC appointed 28 members to Advisory Committee representing diverse interests
 - Oil and gas companies
 - Seismic operators
 - Academic researchers
 - Environmentalists
 - Navy
 - National Marine Fisheries Service
 - Minerals Management Service
 - National Science Foundation

Advisory Committee on Acoustic Impacts on Marine Mammals

- **Goals of the Committee:**
 - Identify areas of scientific agreement, disagreement, and uncertainty
 - Identify research needs and priorities
 - Recommend management strategies to avoid and mitigate impacts

Advisory Committee on Acoustic Impacts on Marine Mammals

Anticipate 6 meetings of the entire group

- Open to the public
- Meeting in Washington DC, California, New Orleans
- Subcommittee meetings
- International workshop in London

Advisory Committee on Acoustic Impacts on Marine Mammals

- Beaked whale workshop – April 2004
- Co-sponsor (w/ NMFS and others) of Shipping Symposium – May 2004

Policy on Sound and Marine Mammals: An International Workshop

Goals for this workshop:

- Describe and discuss range of international efforts to manage and mitigate the effects of human-made sound on marine mammals
- Describe and discuss cross-boundary & multilateral issues
- Identify innovative strategies and solutions

Policy on Sound and Marine Mammals: An International Workshop

Products expected from this workshop:

- Background documents
- Abstracts and posters
- Workshop report prepared by MMC and JNCC